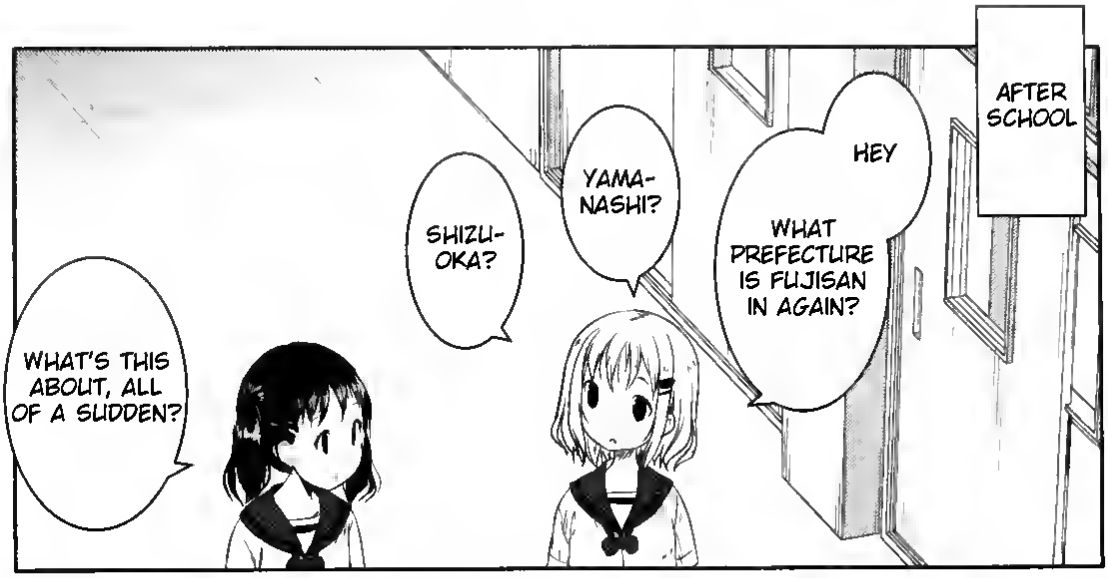
AOI!
FUJISAN!
IT... REALLY IS
FROM TAKAO-SAN
WE COULD SEE FUJISAN

I WAS USED TO SEEING IT ON POSTCARDS AND SUCH
SO I KNEW ITS SHAPE WELL
WHEN I FIRST SAW IT
ON TAKAO-SAN
I WAS SO NERVOUS ABOUT GIVING HINATA THAT PRESENT
THAT I DIDN'T GET A GOOD LOOK
BUT I REMEMBER
IT'S SO BIG THAT YOU CAN SEE IT FROM TOKYO
I WONDER HOW IT WOULD BE TO SEE IT UP CLOSE

10TH CLIMB: WHERE CAN WE SEE FUJISAN?

IF YOU CLIMB THE MOUNTAINS IN THE SOUTHERN KANTO REGION, YOU WILL CERTAINLY BE ABLE TO SEE FUJISAN (MT. FUJI). IT STANDS OUT EVEN AMONG THE MANY MOUNTAINS SURROUNDING IT, AND ALL WOULD AGREE THAT IT'S ASSERTION OF STRENGTH HAS BECOME THE SYMBOL OF JAPAN.


AFTER SCHOOL
HEY
WHAT PREFECTURE IS FUJISAN IN AGAIN?
YAMA-NASHI?
SHIZU-OKA?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

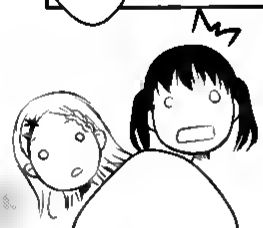
WELL,
FROM TAKAOSAN, FUJISAN LOOKED PRETTY BIG
SOMEWHAT REVISED MEMORY
SO I JUST WONDERED

...

OH!
AT LAST, WE'LL CHALLENGE FUJISAN!
NO WAY!
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO SEE IT UP CLOSE...

NOW THEN,
HINATA'S HOUSE
I'M HOME!
30 MINUTES LATER
SO,
AH- HINATA-CHAN?
IS THIS KAEDE-SAN?
HELLO?
HELLO EVERYONE! THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR ASSEMBLING HERE TODAY!!
EVERYONE? THERE'S ONLY US HERE...
OH, SHE'S FIRED UP

HMM,
A MOUNTAIN WITH A GOOD VIEW OF FUJISAN...
HMM... SHE'S BEING RASH AGAIN...
YES! I WANT TO SURPRISE AOI WITH IT
DON'T YOU KNOW A GOOD SPOT?
HMM



OOOH!

THERE ARE STILL QUITE A FEW...

THE MOUNTAINS NEAR THERE,

JUST LOOKING AT

KAEDE-SAN'S VAGUE MEMORY MOUNTAIN MAP

NORTHERN ALPS
WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH, DIFFICULT PEAKS, THIS AREA IS A CLIMBER FAVORITE

MIKUNIYAMA AREA
A STARTING POINT FOR TRAVERSES OF TANIGAWADAKE, THE ENVIRONMENT IS HARSH AND THE WEATHER CHANGES EASILY

YATSU-GATAKE
A LARGE NUMBER OF 3000 METER CLASS MOUNTAINS LIE IN THIS COMPACT REGION

TSUKUBASAN
A SMALL MOUNTAIN THAT DOESN'T BREAK THE 1000 METER MARK, THE BEAUTIFUL VIEWS ARE THE REASON FOR THE SAYING "EAST OF FUJI, WEST OF TSUKUBA"

赤城山

CHICHIBU MOUNTAINS
AT SAITAMA'S BACK, THERE ARE SEVERAL MOUNTAINS IN THE 2000 TO 2500 METER RANGE

TANZAWA MOUNTAINS
SMALL MOUNTAINS IN KANAGAWA THAT ARE NICE FOR THEIR ACCESS FROM THE CITY

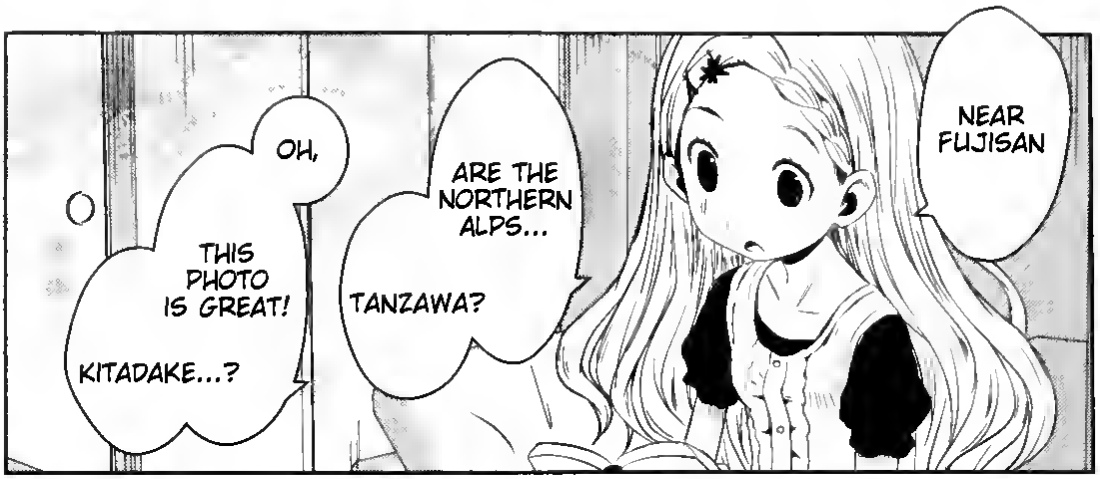
FUJISAN
THE WELL KNOWN HIGHEST IN JAPAN, SINGLE PEAKS LIKE THIS ARE FAIRLY UNCOMMON

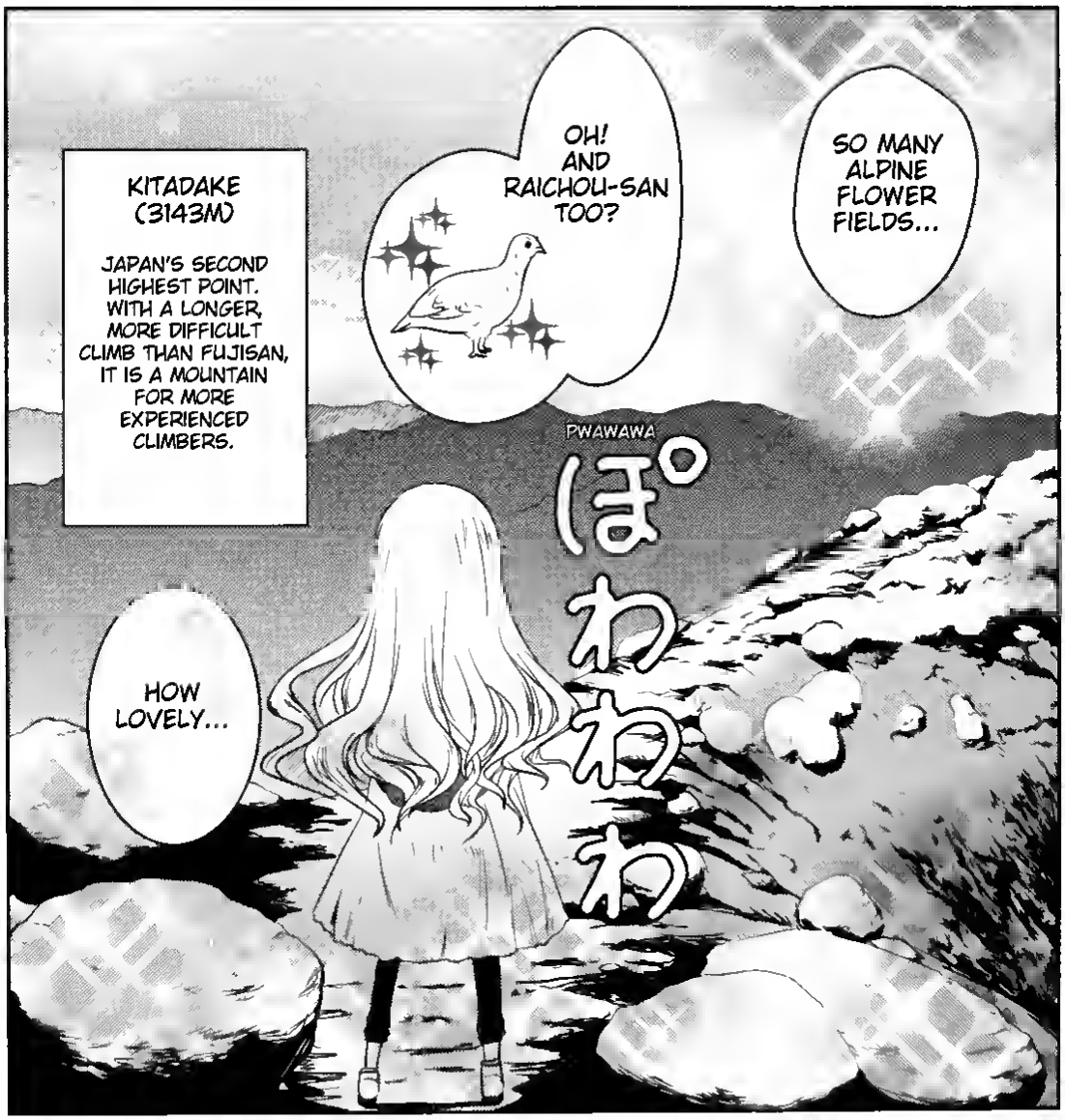
SOUTHERN ALPS
A LOT OF 3000 METER CLASS PEAKS, MANY OF THEM WITH GENTLE SLOPES

CENTRAL ALPS
COMPARED TO THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN, THIS RANGE OF 3000 METER PEAKS IS SOMEWHAT SMALLER

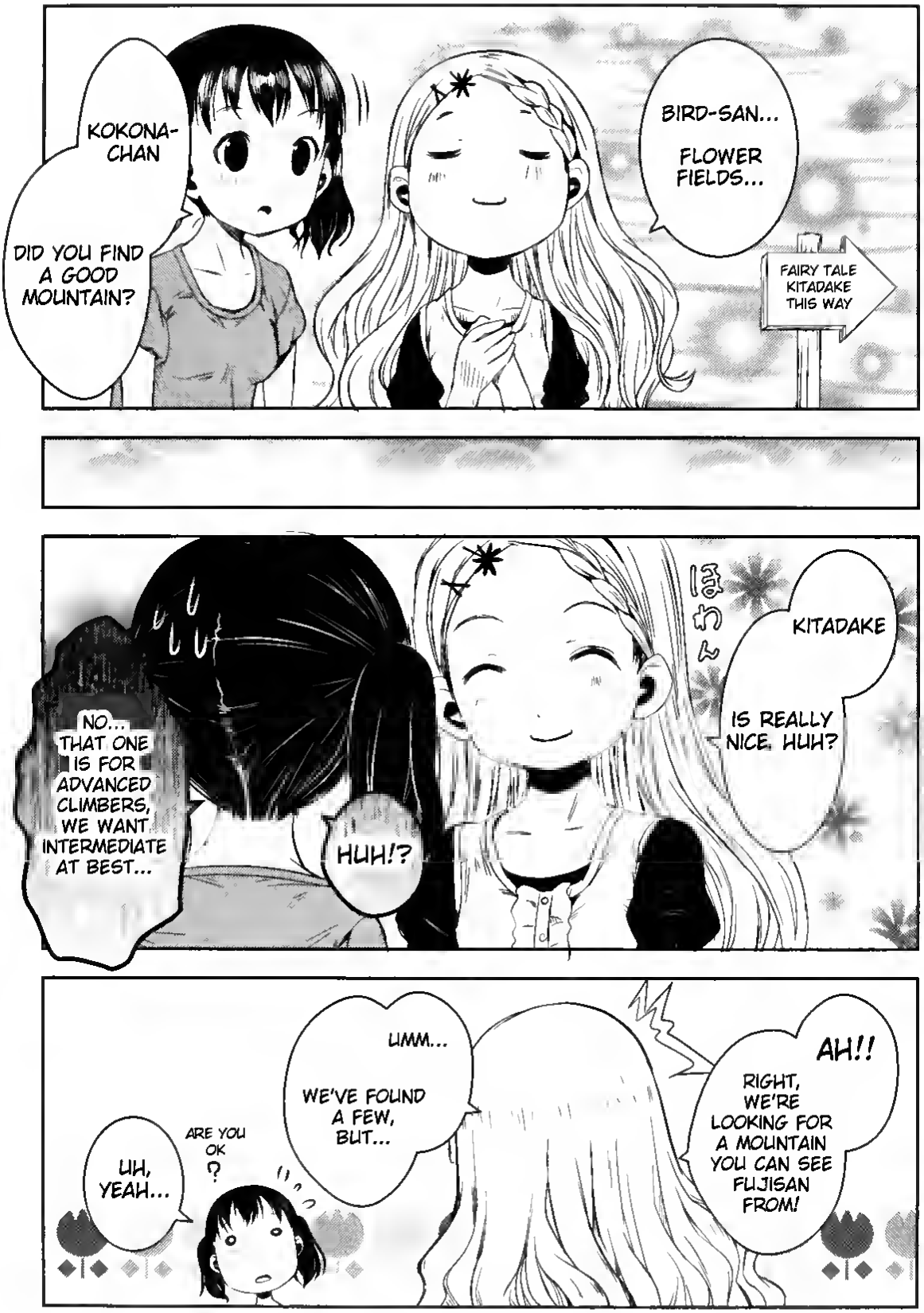
AFTER BECOMING MORE EXPERIENCED AT MOUNTAIN CLIMBING, YOU WILL TEND TO DECIDE WHICH MOUNTAIN YOU WANT TO CLIMB BASED ON THE MOUNTAIN RANGE THAT IT'S IN.

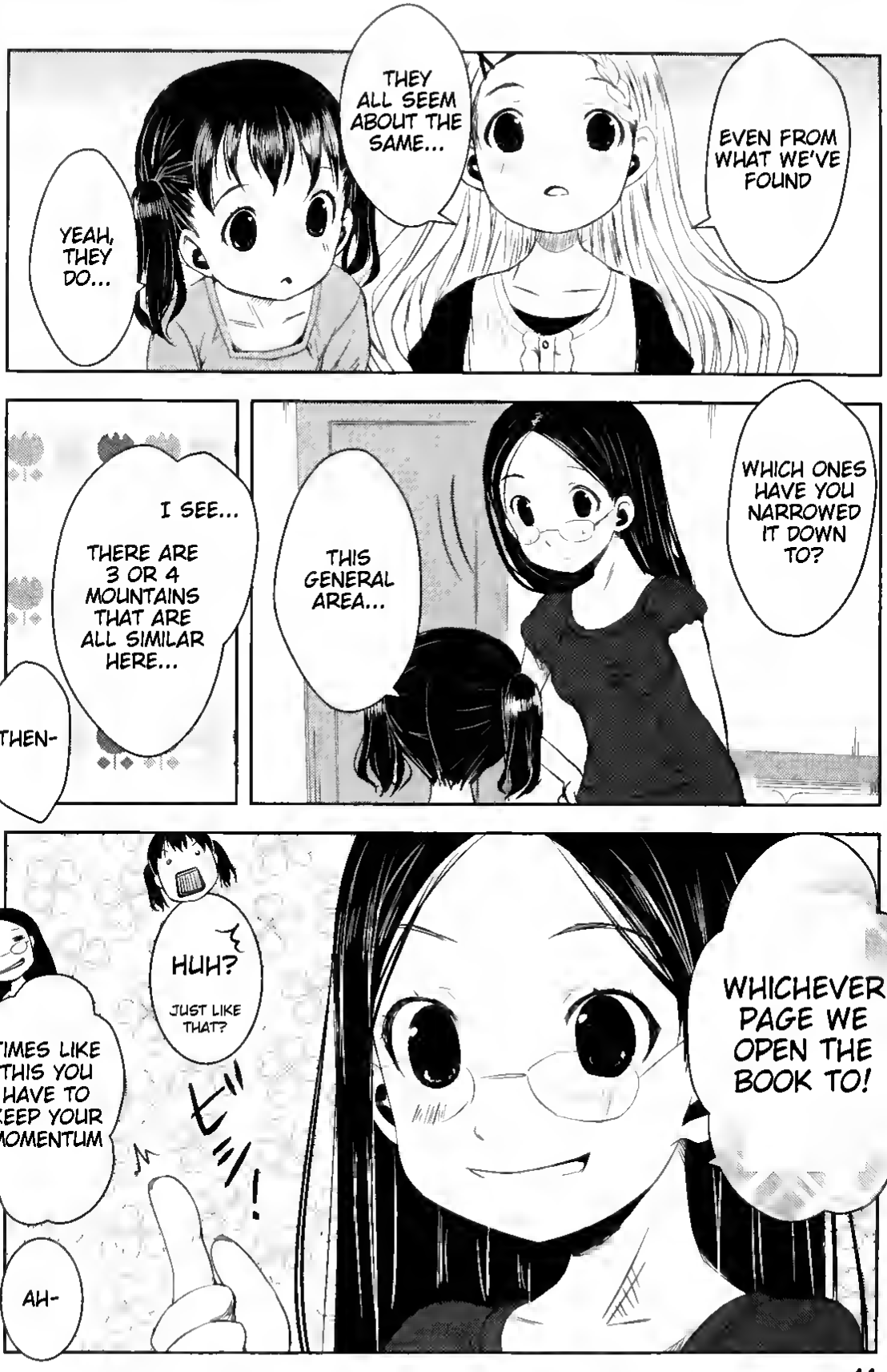
FOR NOW,
LET'S LOOK IN THE GUIDE BOOK I BROUGHT,
SHALL WE?
YES!
A SHORT HOUR PASSES
UGH
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
むーん…
THERE ARE TOO MANY MOUNTAINS TO CHOOSE FROM...
ほわー
REGION, DIFFICULTY,
EVEN IF WE NARROW IT DOWN...
FOR AOI-SAN'S SAKE,
WE SHOULD TRY OUR BEST...

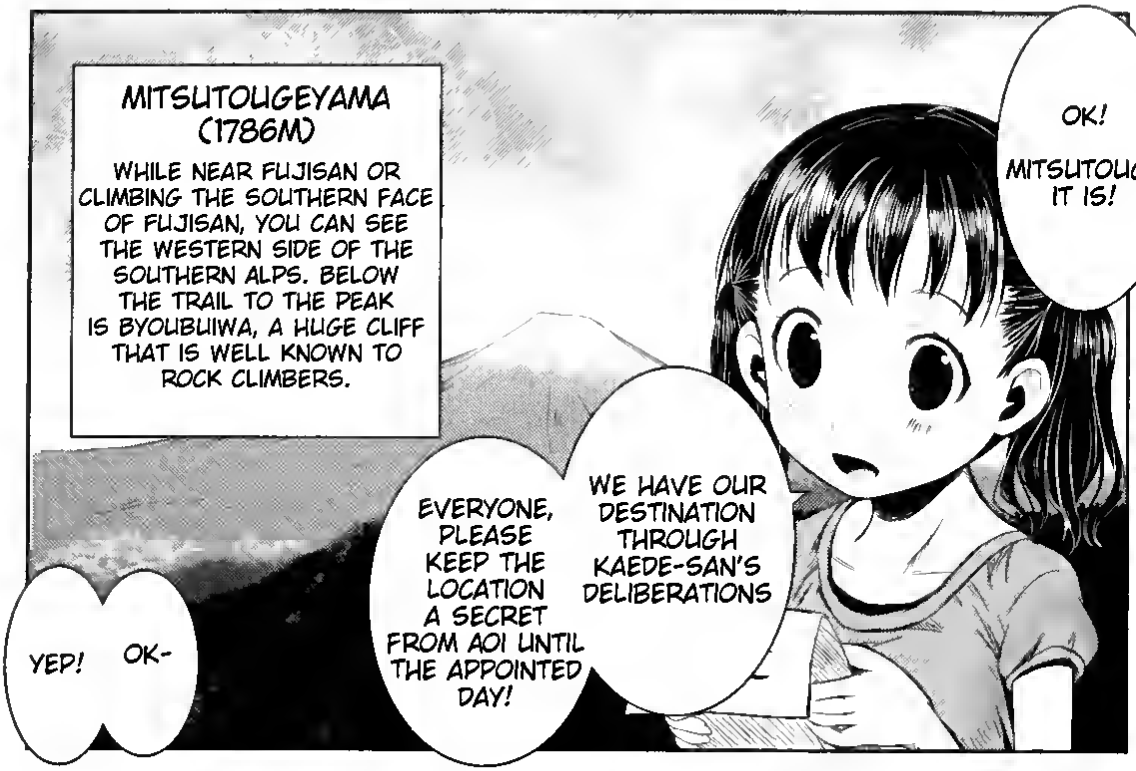


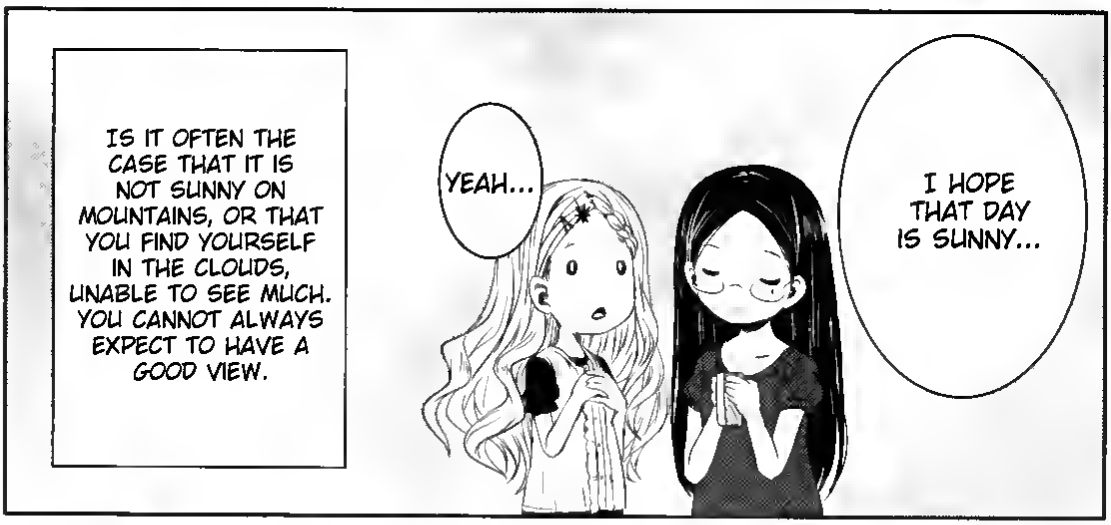

KITADAKE (3143M)
JAPAN'S SECOND HIGHEST POINT. WITH A LONGER, MORE DIFFICULT CLIMB THAN FUJISAN, IT IS A MOUNTAIN FOR MORE EXPERIENCED CLIMBERS.
OH! AND RAICHOU-SAN TOO?
SO MANY ALPINE FLOWER FIELDS...
PWAWAWA
ぽわわわ
HOW LOVELY...

RAICHOU - JAPANESE PTARMIGAN - GALLIFORMES ORDER, L. M. JAPONICA
A SUBSPECIES OF PTARMIGAN UNIQUE TO JAPAN.

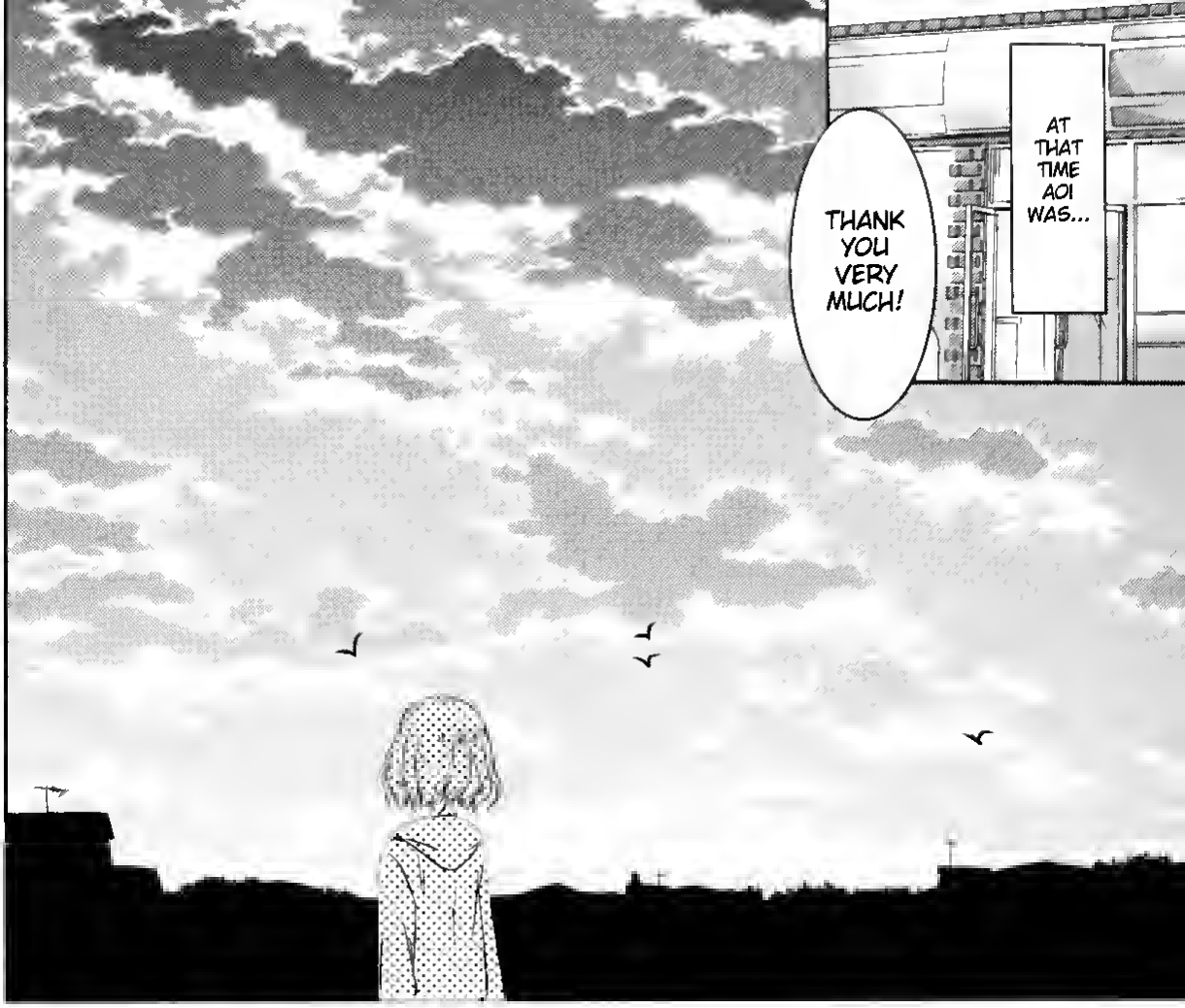

KOKONA-CHAN
DID YOU FIND A GOOD MOUNTAIN?
BIRD-SAN... FLOWER FIELDS...
FAIRY TALE KITADAKE THIS WAY
KITADAKE IS REALLY NICE. HUH?
はわん
HUH!?
NO... THAT ONE IS FOR ADVANCED CLIMBERS, WE WANT INTERMEDIATE AT BEST...
AH!! RIGHT, WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN YOU CAN SEE FUJISAN FROM!
UMM... WE'VE FOUND A FEW, BUT...
ARE YOU OK?
UH, YEAH...


EVEN FROM WHAT WE'VE FOUND
THEY ALL SEEM ABOUT THE SAME...
YEAH, THEY DO...
WHICH ONES HAVE YOU NARROWED IT DOWN TO?
THIS GENERAL AREA...
I SEE... THERE ARE 3 OR 4 MOUNTAINS THAT ARE ALL SIMILAR HERE...
THEN-
WHICHEVER PAGE WE OPEN THE BOOK TO!
HUH? JUST LIKE THAT?
TIMES LIKE THIS YOU HAVE TO KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM
AH-

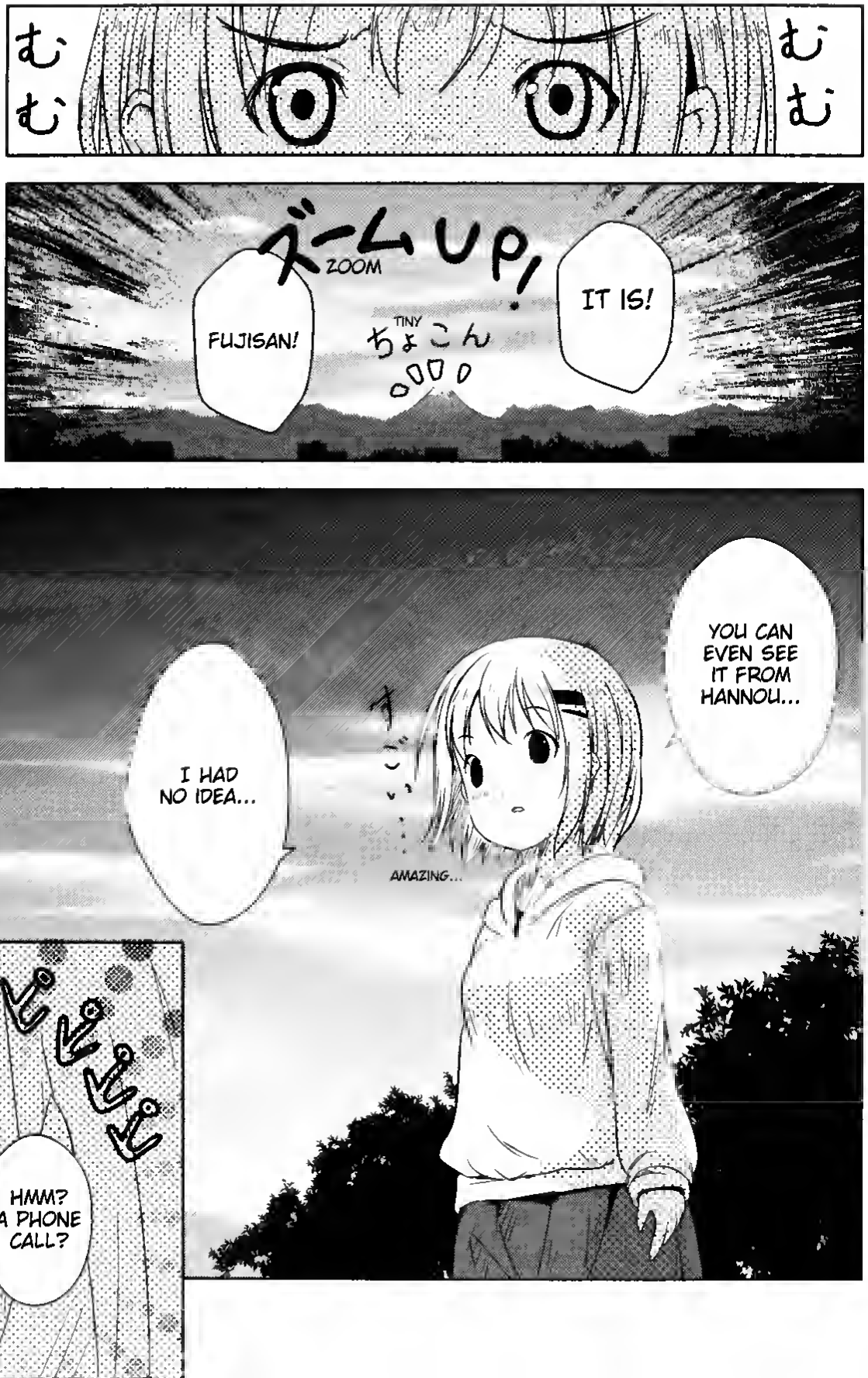

MITSUTOUGEYAMA (1786M)
WHILE NEAR FUJISAN OR CLIMBING THE SOUTHERN FACE OF FUJISAN, YOU CAN SEE THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE SOUTHERN ALPS. BELOW THE TRAIL TO THE PEAK IS BYOUBUIWA, A HUGE CLIFF THAT IS WELL KNOWN TO ROCK CLIMBERS.
OK! MITSUTOUGE IT IS!
WE HAVE OUR DESTINATION THROUGH KAEDE-SAN'S DELIBERATIONS
EVERYONE, PLEASE KEEP THE LOCATION A SECRET FROM AOI UNTIL THE APPOINTED DAY!
OK-
YEP!

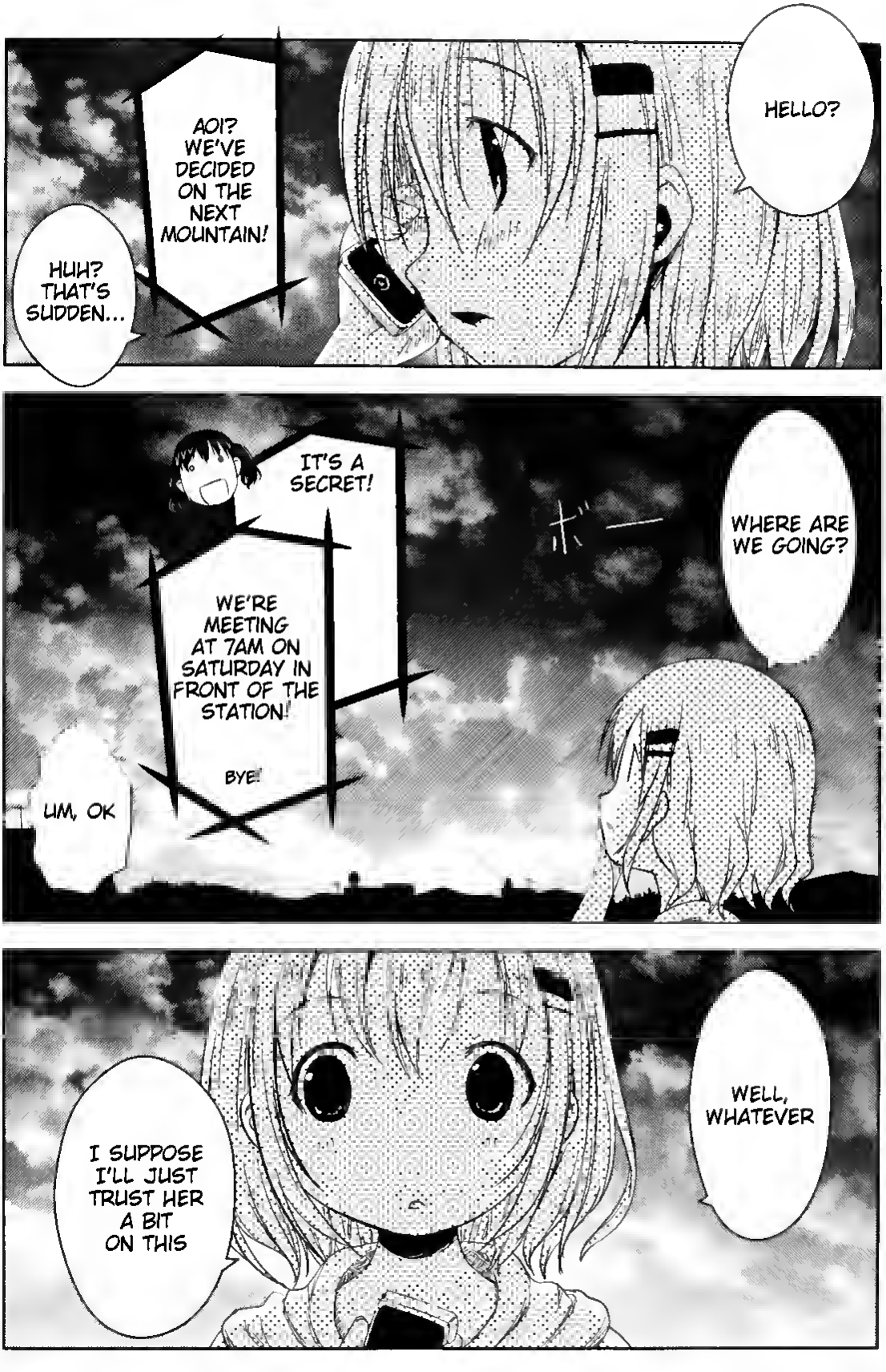

IS IT OFTEN THE CASE THAT IT IS NOT SUNNY ON MOUNTAINS, OR THAT YOU FIND YOURSELF IN THE CLOUDS, UNABLE TO SEE MUCH. YOU CANNOT ALWAYS EXPECT TO HAVE A GOOD VIEW.
I HOPE THAT DAY IS SUNNY...
YEAH...

NOW,
THEN, LEAVE IT TO ME TO CONTACT AOI!
WELL DONE, EVERYONE!


AT THAT TIME AOI WAS...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

IS THAT...
ああああ…


むむ
むむ
ズームUP!
ZOOM
FUJISAN!
TINY
ちょこん
IT IS!
YOU CAN EVEN SEE IT FROM HANNOU...
すごい...
AMAZING...
I HAD NO IDEA...
ピピピピ
HMM? A PHONE CALL?


HELLO?
AOI? WE'VE DECIDED ON THE NEXT MOUNTAIN!
HUH? THAT'S SUDDEN...
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
IT'S A SECRET!
WE'RE MEETING AT 7AM ON SATURDAY IN FRONT OF THE STATION!
BYE!
UM, OK
WELL, WHATEVER
I SUPPOSE I'LL JUST TRUST HER A BIT ON THIS

PLACES YOU CAN SEE FUJISAN

FUJISAN IS THE SYMBOL OF JAPAN. ITS EXTRAORDINARY APPEARANCE STANDS OUT, IT IS THE CLIMBING MECCA FOR ALL OF THE KANTOU REGION, AND YOU CAN SEE IT FROM MOST OF THE SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN ALPS.

IT CAN EVEN BE SEEN FROM AS FAR AWAY AS PLACES LIKE WAKAYAMA PREFECTURE!

IF YOU WANT TO SEE IT YOURSELF FROM TOKYO, YOU CAN SOMETIMES SEE IT BETWEEN BUILDINGS, AND I REMEMBER SEEING IT AS A CHILD FROM MAKUHARI CONVENTION CENTER IN CHIBA.

WITHIN A RADIUS OF 200 KILOMETERS THERE ARE A WIDE RANGE OF MOUNTAINS THAT YOU CAN SEE FUJISAN FROM. KEEPING YOUR EYES OPEN FOR FUJISAN WHILE YOU'RE IN HIGH OR OPEN PLACES, HOW MANY PLACES CAN YOU SEE IT?

IF THEY KNOW SOMETHING IS COMING, MANY PEOPLE CAN MAINTAIN THEIR EMOTIONAL COMPOSURE WHEN THEY SEE IT FOR THE FIRST TIME